

Recent Books from Thailand – October 2014

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Anthropology

Tai Magic : Arts of the Supernatural in the Shan States and Lan Na / Susan Conway

Bangkok: Rivers Books, 2014

216p.

Includes Index

9786167339153

\$ 45.00 /HB

898gm.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=155190>

Ghosts of the New City : Spirits, Urbanity, and the Ruins of Progress in

Chiang Mai / Andrew Alan Johnson

Chiang Mai : Silkworm Books, 2014

x, 190p., 21cm.

Includes Index

9786162150821

\$ 25.00/PB

242gm.

Chiang Mai (literally, “new city”) suffered badly in the 1997 Asian financial crisis as the Northern Thai real estate bubble collapsed along with the Thai baht, crushing dreams of a renaissance of Northern prosperity. Years later, the ruins of the excesses of the 1990s still stain the skyline. In *Ghosts of the New City*, Andrew Alan Johnson shows how the trauma of the crash, brought back vividly by the political crisis of 2006, haunts efforts to remake the city. For many Chiang Mai residents, new developments harbor the seeds of the crash, which manifest themselves in anxious stories of ghosts and criminals who conceal themselves behind the city’s progressive veneer. Hopes for rebirth and fears of decline have their roots in Thai conceptions of progress, which draw from Buddhist and animist ideas of power and sacrality. Cities, Johnson argues, were centers where the charismatic power of kings and animist spirits were grounded; these entities assured progress by imbuing the space with sacred power that would avert disaster. Johnson traces such magico-religious conceptions of potency and space from historical records through present-day popular religious practice and draws parallels between these and secular attempts at urban revitalization.

Through a detailed ethnography of the contested ways in which academics, urban activists, spirit mediums, and architects seek to revitalize the flagging economy and infrastructure of Chiang Mai, Johnson finds that alongside the hope for progress there exists a discourse about urban ghosts, deadly construction sites, and the lurking anxiety of another possible crash, a discourse that calls into question history's upward trajectory. In this way, *Ghosts of the New City* draws new connections between urban history and popular religion that have implications far beyond Southeast Asia.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=168670>

Architecture

Small Medium House 2

Bangkok: Li-Zenn Publishing Limited, 2014

320p.

9786167800431

1. Houses
2. Architecture, Domestic

\$ 55.00 /PB

1170gm.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=168672>

Thailand Heritage Hotel : Chiang Mai & Chiang Rai

Bangkok: Li-Zenn Publishing Limited, 2014

288p.

9786167800240

1. Hotels

\$ 60.00 /HB

2200gm.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=168673>

Small Talk Bangkok : What Makes a City a Good Place For Everyone? / (Ed)

Waricha Wongphyat

Bangkok: Faculty of Architecture, Chulalongkorn University, 2014

203p.

9786165517720

\$ 19.50/PB

258gm.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=168677>

New Design Hotels – Bangkok

Bangkok: Li-Zenn Publishing Limited, 2014

320p.

9786167191997

1. Hotel
2. Architecture, Thai

\$ 70.00/HB

1690gm.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=168678>

Mountain House

Bangkok: Li-Zenn Publishing Limited, 2014

272p.

9786167191751

1. Vacation Homes

2. Architecture – Thailand

\$ 70.00/HB

1480gm.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=168680>

Thailand Small Hotels : Bangkok 2

Bangkok: Li-Zenn Publishing Limited. 2014

296p.

9786167800301

1. Hotels

\$ 39.50 /PB

654gm.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=168681>

Exploring Bangkok : An Architectural and Historical Guidebook / Robin Ward

Bangkok: Li-Zenn Publishing Limited, 2014

304p.

9786167800332

1. Architecture

\$ 40.00/PB

804g.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=168682>

Art

The House of the Raja : Splendour and Desolation in Thailand 's Deep South
/ Xavier Comas

Bangkok: River Books Co. Ltd, 2014

232p.; 29cm.

86 B&W Photographs, 64 Pages of text

9786167339177

\$ 70.00/HB

1980gm.

Forgotten in Thailand's troubled Deep South, stands a dilapidated wooden palace once home to a Malay ruler, the last of his dynasty.

Locals call it the “House of the Raja”, a place suffused with loss and solitude, laden with the region’s glorious past and tragic present. Intrigued by this demonised, yet little-known borderland, Xavier Comas chanced upon this mysterious house. Crossing the doorway, he fell under its spell and felt compelled to delve into its past. The caretaker, a Muslim shaman who held rituals inside, invited the author to stay and initiated him into its hidden dimensions. As he builds a bond of trust with the inhabitants of the house, the missing pieces of its history gently fall into place, revealing an ancient culture long hidden and the building’s ties to the centuries-old struggles in this contested region.

Comas’ evocative black-and-white photographs take us into a realm of hauntings, mystic powers and fading memories. His first-hand account enthralls the reader with vivid descriptions in which the real and the magical entwine. The House of the Raja provides a missing key to controversial issues of legacy, belief and identity in Thailand’s Muslim South.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=168683>

History

*Siam d’hier Thaïlande d’aujourd’hui : Par les textes en français du XVIIe
Siècle à nos jours / Patrick Binot, Jean Marcel
Paris : Soukha Editions, 2014

320p.

9782919122660

\$ 59.50/PB

778gm.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=168684>

Trams, Buses and Rails : The History of Urban Transport in Bangkok, 1886–
2010 / Ichiro Kakizaki
Chiang Mai, Thailand : Silkworm Books, 2014
xvi, 436 ; 21cm.

Includes Index

23 Figs., 53 tables

9786162150807

\$ 32.50/PB

530gm.

Trams, Buses, and Rails recounts the unique and little-known 130-year history of Bangkok’s transportation system, from the first horse-powered tramway in 1888 to the mass transit urban railway of the twenty-first century. It documents the emergence of trams, buses, subways, elevated trains, and paratransit vehicles along the way. While the growth of transportation types corresponds roughly to the development of urban transport in other Southeast Asian capitals, in Bangkok the planning, construction, implementation, and regulation of transportation systems have made for a particularly lurching and fitful journey.

Bangkok’s traffic congestion is notorious and begs the question, why has the development of an effective urban transport network been so protracted?

Using government archives and annual reports, the author deftly pieces together long-buried records and statistics to reconstruct the transportation policies of each successive metropolitan and national administration, and thereby reveals their underlying political agendas. As he investigates the politicization and regulation of Bangkok's transport systems over the decades, he uncovers a morass of setbacks, reversals, duplications, delays, revisions, withdrawals, and cancelations that help to explain Bangkok's continuing transportation woes.

A series of maps and tables elucidate the development of transportation routes and the rise and fall of the city's trams, railways, and bus lines.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=168686>

Tribute and Profit : Sino-Siamese Trade, 1652-1853 / Sarasin Viraphol
Chiang Mai, Thailand: Silkworm Books, 2014

xvii, 378p.; 21cm.

Includes Index

9786162150791

\$ 32.00/PB

464gm.

Tribute and Profit illuminates the conduct and maintenance of maritime trade under the auspices of Siam's tributary relationship with imperial China. This bilateral partnership also relied on a number of intermediaries: vassal states, other sovereign nations, and notably, Chinese entrepreneurs and officials. It is through this lens that Sarasin Viraphol scrutinizes the momentous role of the Chinese both in Siam's overseas trade and its domestic economy.

Based substantially on historical Chinese, Siamese, and European sources, Sarasin Viraphol's careful reconstruction of the tributary trade pinpoints the creative subversions, calculated risks, and clever contrivances that kept the wheels of the Siamese economy turning for centuries. Eventually, the era of tribute missions and the junk trade was irreversibly transformed by the ascendancy of European-style maritime commerce, free trade, and open markets. Nevertheless, the modern Thai economy has been fundamentally shaped by the interactions described in *Tribute and Profit*, and the influences of these bygone relations are still present in Thailand today.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=168689>

Textiles, Crafts and Customs of Burma's Women World (1910) / Lucian and Christine Scherman

Reprint

Bangkok: White Lotus Co, Ltd, 2014

xx, 171p.

9789748495545

\$ 15.75 /PB

344gm.

This book documents the travels of a German Couple researching Burma's tribal women in 1910-1911. Published in 1922 as a complement to scientific

articles with the purpose of making available unique photographic material it has long remained obscure.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=168693>

John Thompson : The Early Years – In Search of the Orient / Joel Montague & Jim Mizerski

Bangkok: White Lotus Co, Ltd., 2014

xxiii, 225p

9789748434940

\$ 33.00 /PB

1020gm.

John Thomson: The Early Years - In Search of the Orient Presents the early work of one of the greatest figures of nineteenth century photojournalism, the very first man to photograph the exotic and overpowering ruins of Angkor Wat in Cambodia. Born in Edinburgh in 1837, Thomson started his photography career in Singapore, Penang and the Malay Peninsula before photographing royalty and exploring architecture in Siam, Cambodia and Vietnam. While Thomson is best known for the photographs of China and London taken in his later years, the foundations of his success were the less well known images that he took in Southeast Asia and Hong Kong. Thomson biographer Stephen White has noted that Thomson 's photographs are "Valued for their intrinsic qualities - the beauty of their imagery, their vivid sense of immediacy and their unconventional approach to composition." This book not only shows (in some cases for the first time) Thomson's earliest work, but republishes in its entirety his first book, The Antiquities of Cambodia, which revealed the ruins of Angkor Wat and the Bayon as they were almost one hundred and fifty years ago. That rare but seminal 1867 volume has never been republished until now.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=168695>

Journal

The Journal of the Siam Society, Volume 102 : 2014 / (Ed) Chris Baker & Paul Bromberg

Bangkok: The Siam Society, 2014

viii. 344p.

ISSN: 0857-7099

\$ 90.00/PB

928gm.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=168700>

Official Publications

The 2012 Commodity Flow Survey
Bangkok : National Statistical Office, Ministry of Information and
Communication Technology, 2014

xii. 150p.

9789741130085

\$ 25.00 /PB

460gm.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=168702>

The Reading of Population Survey 2013
Bangkok: National Statistical Office, 2014

xiv, 242p.

ISSN: 1906-6287

\$ 30.00/PB

664gm.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=168708>

Advance Report 2013 Agricultural Census
Bangkok: National Statistical Office, 2014

xxx, 100p.

\$ 20.00/PB

380gm.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=168709>

The 2013 Construction Area
Bangkok: National Statistical Office, 2014

xv. 200p.

ISSN: 1905-7695

\$ 30.00 /PB

692gm.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=168710>

The 2013 Household Socio-Economic Survey : Whole Kingdom
Bangkok: National Statistical Office, 2014

xxiii. 94p.

ISSN: 1905-6397

\$ 25.00 /PB

348gm.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=168712>

The 2013 Labour Demand of Establishment Survey

Bangkok: National Statistical Office, 2014

xv. 271p.

9789749765623

\$ 30.00 /PB

754gm.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=168714>

Politics

Politics and Regional Integration in Greater Mekong Sub-Region / Kosum Saichan

Chiang Mai : Faculty of Political Science and Public Administration, Chiang Mai University, 2014

ix, 172p.

9786163619785

\$ 22.00 /PB

300gm.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=168719>

Community Rights : A Substantive Dimension of Democracy in Securing Resource Access / Keokam Kraisoraphong

Bangkok: Faculty of Political Science, Chulalongkorn University., 2014

vi, 107p.

9786165516952

\$ 12.00 /PB

260gm.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=168722>
